

Republican progressive where their records show them to be such.

Will Roosevelt be candidate for president in 1916?

It is my personal conviction that he will. If he lives and goes on fighting for the progressive policies as he says he will, no human power can prevent that.

Will the Republican party, in a final desperate effort to regain lost power, accept him as the candidate after the progressives have nominated him?

That is a question which will be decided without any assistance from Col. Roosevelt.

"Would you, Colonel, accept the Republican nomination?"

That is a question which Roosevelt will never answer.

It will be put to him in one way or another, in the next two years, many hundred times. As often as it is put to him he will decline to answer.

Can the progressive principles be forced into the Republican platform? Can the reactionary leadership of the Republican party be overthrown? Can Penrose, Barnes, Crane, Taft and company be dumped upon the political scrap-heap and the party turned over to leaders who are abreast of the most enlightened political thought of the day?

When these questions are answered Roosevelt will be ready to answer the question as to whether he will consent to be the Republican nominee.

Will Roosevelt refuse the Republican nomination?

He will answer that question when the nomination is offered, not before.

Roosevelt's attitude toward the Republican nomination is made more interesting by the fact that there is already a strong faction among his enthusiastic partisans who are willing to intrigue for the Republican nomination. They see nothing but continued Democratic power ahead unless the divided opposition can be united, and they believe such a union

could be forced by the double nomination.

Just how Roosevelt will deal with this element in his party remains to be seen.

The Colonel will postpone his policies until he gets back from Spain and has had a chance to confer with numerous friends and go over the happenings of the seven months during which he has been entirely out of touch with affairs in the United States.

I have an idea that when he goes into the congressional and senatorial campaigns he will handle the Wilson administration rather roughly. He has already hinted at his opinions on the Columbian treaty, canal tolls and general foreign policies, and there is a broad field open in the administration's trust program and other matters more or less directly connected with the cost of living.

But all this will work out after the above mentioned conferences.

Suffice it to say the Old Bull is back with considerable snort in his system, and the merry game of national politics will, from this time, be looking up.

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MAY BE MEXICAN BATTLE RIGHT UNDER AMERICANS' NOSES

Vera Cruz, Mex., May 23.—Chances for a battle between the Mexican rebels and Gen. Huerta's forces under the very noses of the Americans holding Vera Cruz and vicinity were believed to be increased today. Gen. Aguilar, who was at Tampico, continues landing troops at Puta del Gado.

Only six miles now separate the opposing Mexican forces. Gen. Funston, in command of Vera Cruz, apparently is unconcerned, and has made no move to interfere with the threatened hostilities.

MEDIATION NEWS UNDER LID—CLAMPED DOWN TIGHT

Washington, May 23.—Sensational stories of the impending collapse of